1st April 1955]

Sri K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the extent of reserved forest in Madras State?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" 8,634 square miles."

Veeranam tank, Chidambaram taluk.

* 1772 *Q*.—Sri G. VAGHEESAM PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the maximum storage capacity of the Veeranam tank in Chidambaram taluk;

(*b*) the ayacut of the above tank;

(*c*) whether the tank has silted up; and

(*d*) what is its present capacity?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) 1,447 m.c. feet.

" (*b*) 45,134 acres.

" (*c*) Yes, to some extent.

" (*d*) The information is not readily available."

Sri G. VAGHEESAM PILLAI :—" சென்னை ராஜ்யத்திலே பெரிய தொரு ஏரி இல்லாததாலும், மேலும் முன்பிருந்ததைவிட இப்போது இதற்கு ஆயக்கட்டு அதிகரித்திருப்பதாலும், மேலும் இப்போது தூர்ந்திருப்பதாலும், கனம் மராமத்து இலாகா மந்திரி அவர்கள் தயவு செய்து இந்த வேலையை ஆரம்பிக்க முயற்சிப்பார்களா ?"

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The capacity still remains to be the same. Only the extent of silting has not yet been correctly assessed. It is being done."

Sri K. PARTHASARATHY :—" Sir, have Government any proposal to desilt the tank, since it is admitted there is certain amount of silting? "

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The matter is being looked into."

Sri K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Last year there was a breach in this Veeranam tank because the water was too much. In view of this fact, will the Government come forward to give permission to start some irrigation schemes in Udayarpalayam taluk where permission was previously denied stating that the tank is not having water to its full capacity? "

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have no information. A separate question may be put."

Prohibition cases in Thirumangalam village.

* 1773 *Q*.—

Mr. SPEAKER :—" As the hon. Member is not in his seat the question and answer will be printed in the proceedings."

[1st April 1955

Sri M. PALANIMUTHU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases registered under the Prohibition Act in Thirumangalam village of Perambalur taluk in 1953–54;

(b) how many ended in conviction and how many in acquittal; and

(c) how many are pending before a court of law?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) Only one case, Sir.

" (b) The case ended in acquittal.

" (c) Does not arise."

Araniyar Project.

* 1774 Q.—Sri K. VINAYAKAM (on behalf of Sri M. Dharmalingam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) when the execution of the Araniyar Project was taken up;

(b) the present stage of the execution of the Project;

(c) the total amount estimated for the completion of the Project; and

(d) the total extent of lands expected to be irrigated by this Project and the number of acres in Tiruvallur taluk and the number of acres in Ponneri taluk?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) The execution of the Project was taken up shortly after its inauguration on 23rd July 1951.

" (b) The Suratpalli anicut has been completed. About one-fourth of the total length of the reservoir bund has been formed and work on the balance is in progress. In the river section almost all the main wells for the cut off arrangements have been sunk and about 20 wells have been plugged. The work of construction of the Suratpalli Anicut channel is in progress.

" (c) Rs. 104·19 lakhs.

" (d) The total extent of lands expected to be irrigated is 11,200 acres. Out of this 10,618 acres lie in Tiruvallur taluk and 582 acres lie in Ponneri taluk."

* 1775 Q.—Sri K. VINAYAKAM (on behalf of Sri M. Dharmalingam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Hon. Minister for Public Works and the Hon. Minister for Agriculture had any joint inspection of the